

Certified Firearm Specialist

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BY THE INTERNATIONAL FIREARM SPECIALIST ACADEMY



This training seminar is being hosted by the **Hays County, Texas Sheriff's Office**.

Training Goals: This is an intense course designed to make the learner a competent Specialist and put them on the pathway to becoming a subject-matter expert. Post-seminar testing is included, which certifies the learner as a **Firearm Specialist** upon successful completion.



There is no prior firearm expertise needed. The course is taught at a crawl-walk-run pace and is easy to follow. Attendees will be able to encounter a varied collection of firearms and ammunition, learning to safely clear, accurately identify, classify, and competently categorize any firearm or ammunition, even the oldest obscure foreign military examples, all within ATF and State guidelines. You will be confident in making determinations as to Gun Control Act and National Firearm Act status, able to avoid overlooking violations/items which are contraband. The course solves confusion, misidentification, obscure issues, and unsafe practices, which result from the misinformation and lack of information which plague the firearm field.



The course enables professionals to immediately interpret what they see and apply their knowledge in making an accurate determination as to origin, status under the law, and its method of mechanical operation. All areas of the field of firearms and ammunition will be examined and discussed thoroughly, and Federal law and ATF rulings will be cited to prove all points taught.



The latest firearm technology trends in the industry, as well as criminal-trends in firearms will be explained. These will help the professional to become acquainted with technical concepts not familiar to a beginner. There is an emphasis on understanding ammunition, the accurate identification of guns and ammunition, and the ability to competently explain methods of mechanical operation.



Audience: This course is intended for all law enforcement, licensed firearm dealers, collectors, and manufacturers, Attorneys, military personnel, licensed security, and private investigators.



Methods: The course is a 3-day session, with optional online testing for certification. The course-author is a retired ATF Special Agent and former ATF National Academy firearm-staff member who co-wrote ATF's firearm tech & ID training. Attendees will perform hands-on examinations of numerous firearms. Numerous handouts are also provided as instructional aids, and attendees will receive a certificate of attendance. This training has also been approved by the **IAI, ABMDI, NSSF, Sonoran Desert Institute, CSI Academy of Florida**, and the Instructor is a Technical Advisor to **AFTE**. He has delivered this training at the **International Law Enforcement Academies** in Africa and Europe, and to numerous federal and large state and local law enforcement agencies, including the FBI, Homeland Security, the US Marshals Service, the Police Departments in Boston, Chicago, Seattle, and St. Louis, and many others.

Day One:

- **Firearm Safety and Clearing** (rules of safe handling, clearing procedures, safety precautions, 9 active and passive safety devices, test-firing cautions, jammed firearms, loaded muzzle-loaders)
- **Firearm Classification** (5 categories of Gun Control Act firearms, definitions of “firearm” and “antique” [non-gun], forearm-braces, vertical fore-grips)
- **Markings** (manufacturer, importer, proof, obliterated serials, double serials, double importers, trademarks, ATF variances, hidden serials, Nazi codes, catalog guns, foreign military gun-ID, ATF Firearm Tracing)
- **Nomenclature** (ID of parts necessary for safety and/or location of markings)

Day Two:

- **Ammunition** (types of cartridge cases, bullets, primers, propellant powder, ID, technology, chamber pressure, headspace, SAAMI, interstate nexus)
- **Cycle of Operation** (the function of each step of mechanical operation)
- **Mechanical Types of Operation** (breech and muzzle-loaders, self-loaded and manually-loaded firearms, action types, open and closed-bolt, semiauto and full-auto)
- **Curios and Relics** (collector status granted by ATF, C&Rs vs. antiques, exemptions from the NFA)
- **NFA Rifles/Shotguns** (short-barreled rifles/shotguns, weapons made from rifle/shotgun, exemptions, shoulder-stocked handguns, sub-caliber inserts, procedure for ATF registration/legal manufacture, NFA vs. NFRTR)

Day Three:

- **Machineguns** (Ten most common clandestine manufactures/conversions, field testing, bump-firing, Gatling guns, deactivated war trophies, re-welds, fire-on-release, 80% receiver blanks, dummy guns, home-made guns, methods of destruction)
- **Silencers** (recognition, definitions, soda-bottle and oil-filter adapters, solvent traps, fakes)
- **Any Other Weapon [AOW]** (disguised firearms, smooth-bore handguns, handguns w/vertical fore-grip, Marble Game-getters, concealment of GCA “Other Firearms”)
- **Destructive Devices** (bombs, mines, grenades and rockets, bores over .50 caliber, exemptions, Street-sweeper, USAS-12, Molotov cocktails, IEDs)
- **Court Testimony** (15 points on preparation, writing a Curriculum Vitae, and the pitfalls of testimony)

**Seminar location: Hays County Sheriff’s Office
810 Stagecoach Trail
San Marcos, TX 78666**

**Date: December 14 –16, 2021
Time: 8:00-4:30pm**

Cost of the 3-day course is \$550, which includes printed material, online review videos, and quizzes for certification.

To register, contact IFSA at (813) 422-4674 or email: Info@GunLearn.com. The registration form is here at <https://www.gunlearn.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/IFSA-registration-form-3.28.18.pdf>

To learn more about IFSA/GunLearn, go to www.GunLearn.com .

Attendees are cautioned that the course includes the handling of firearms, and as a result, no live ammunition is allowed in the classroom. Prior arrangements should be made for safe storage of duty weapons and ammunition. Due to the inherent handling of firearms in the class, attendance is restricted to those who are not prohibited from possession of a firearm or ammunition under Title 18 U.S. Code 922 (g).